

women insulted and attacked in the south, where there is less need for police interference for such cases. Down south, if the offense is not serious, the guilty party is merely thrashed severely, but if he be guilty of a graver deed, such as mistreatment or murder, he is lynched—or hanged by the state, where justice is done. This is a much more effective way of dealing with such people than small fines or short imprisonment and often no punishment at all. In the northern courts it is not always a case of justice, but the one who has the best lawyer or the most political pull usually wins. What we need is more action and less quibbling and we wouldn't need so many policemen and women.

Judging from some recent communications in *The Day Book* a few women admire northern cowardice. Those who want that and the much-abused word "justice" can have it. I'll take southern chivalry—and grit.—Miss H. S.

FOR EX-SOLDIERS. — Veteran Miller complains of war volunteer inefficiency in *Day Book* of Aug. 26. I felt sympathetic at his opening statements, but could not and cannot help protesting against the arguments which impelled him to write.

Surely Miller was a "regular," for he rants at the service of the regiment under Col. Wood (later under Roosevelt). He also decries a New York regiment.

Miller should know that the "Rough Riders" were a good regiment from the standpoint of knowing how to shoot and to stand steady under fire. He should know that it was at La Gussimas that the so-called flanking of this regiment occurred, and not at the charge on the San Juan hill defenses.

I would remind my "regular" friend that there was no "7th New York Volunteers" in the Fifth Army Corps, nor was there any volunteer regiment in the Santiago expedition that

"stampeded and dropped their arms," making it necessary for the regular regiments to "round them up."

Even since the Spanish war we volunteers have had to stand more stupid attack from men of the regular establishment than we could endure patiently. Comrade Miller is pushing along the good, old regular army calumny against the 71st N. Y. volunteer infantry, who were compelled to stand under an irritating Spanish fire because the regular army commanders would not permit them to go to the firing line in a body because they had the old "smoky" Springfield rifles. Later (does Miller know) a part of this regiment supported Grimes' battery.

As for the Plattsburgh and Fort Sheridan training schools, I wish to remind my comrade that if he is one of the "lower classes" he must not aspire to be anything more than a "non-com." His six years' service should entitle him to some command. But he must remember that the business interests of this country require that the army be officered by the same element as that which officers the thug militia in states where the militia is the guard for pirates.

If a man is a patriot (not a scissorbill) and wishes to make this a habitable land, and since we are sure to be raising hundreds of regiments as soon as the capitalists feel the need for them, let him pull strong for the Swiss system. Never mind who or what is the officer, just be a good, cool sharpshooter and learn to stand still or go forward when things get noisy.

Let us not tell fables about regiments in former wars, for even the infallible regulars did not know that flies and mosquitoes were killing more of our outfits in Santiago than did bullets. Let us prepare to go to war for the abolition of starvation and murder. That is what took many of us to Cuba in 1898. Weyler was starving babies and murdering their parents. We went there to stop it.